

A highly successful businessman, he has stood at the helm of The Jonesboro Sun for decades, guiding the growth of The Sun from a small afternoon daily newspaper to the largest, independent family-owned publication in Arkansas that serves as the regional morning paper in the Northeast area of the state. His recent announcement that The Sun will be sold to the Paxton Media Group of Paducah, Kentucky, was felt across the state of Arkansas. Other newspapermen have paid tribute to Troutt in recent weeks after learning The Sun was up for sale.

For two decades he has served as editor, overseeing the newsroom, and as publisher, overseeing the business side of the newspaper, in addition to assuming the role of night editor two nights a week, in charge of putting out the next morning's edition. Very few newspapermen have had the love of the business or sufficient stamina—he will be 71 in October—to fulfill his many roles, much less fulfill them with his energy and passion.

Every day he writes The Sun's editorials. Readers have no difficulty understanding where he stands. He has not hesitated to call on public officials and bodies to correct what he views as an errant course.

In newspaper circles, he is best known for his beliefs in the tenets of the first amendment. He has filed more lawsuits than any other Arkansas editor or publisher to enforce the provisions of the state Freedom of Information Act. "The public's business should be done in public" is his oft-repeated philosophy.

John has been a mentor, advisor, and friend to all of Northeast Arkansas. He has dedicated his life to serving his fellow citizens as a leader in both his profession and his community, and he deserves our respect and gratitude for his contributions. On behalf of the Congress, I extend congratulations and best wishes to my good friend John Troutt, Jr. on his successes and achievements.

HONORING AL MOLITOR

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding achievements of an extraordinary man, Al Molitor. For 35 years, Mr. Molitor has served in the administration of public health and welfare programs for non-profit organizations and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition, the contributions he has made within the Montgomery County community and particularly the Abington-Rockledge Democratic Committee are invaluable.

Al earned his bachelor of arts from Temple University and continued his studies at the Bryn Mawr School of Social Work and Research where he received his master of social service degree. Al has held leadership positions in state public health and social work professional associations. He has served on the Abington Township Library Board, in parent-teacher organizations and the Boy Scouts. He also organized the Old York Road Genealogical Society, and served as its president for nearly 4 years.

Al has been a prominent figure within the Abington-Rockledge Democratic Committee for a number of years and became chairman in 1994. He also served as chair of the Montgomery County Voter Registration Drive from 1992–1994. His work within the Democratic community in Montgomery County is unparalleled and much appreciated. With a solid Republican background, Al found himself as a non-partisan when he moved to Abington in 1958, but quickly found a home within the Democratic community in Montgomery County. In spite of an extremely busy public life, Al remains devoted to his family. He and his wife, Natalie, have two children, Elizabeth and Steve, and three grandchildren.

It is an honor and a privilege to acknowledge the dedication and contributions of Al Molitor who has served his community well.

VALUE OF ESTABLISHING THE
SWISS CENTER OF NORTH AMERICA

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, our nation was built on the dreams of immigrants who came here to create a better life for themselves and their families. The ethnic diversity of the American patchwork quilt makes this nation strong and has helped our nation become the envy of much of the world.

I am proud to be from a state whose ethnic heritage can be seen in our faces, our foods and families. Wisconsin is a state made up of settlers who came from the far corners of the world to build their businesses, raise their families and stake their claims for a piece of the American Dream.

There is an exciting new project underway in my congressional district that has national and international implications. The Swiss Center of North America is proposed to be located in New Glarus, Wisconsin. This new center will facilitate historical research, cultural exchanges and business partnerships extending beyond the beautiful rolling countryside of America's Dairyland.

Like many ethnic groups, the Swiss came to North America in large numbers in the 19th Century, settling in each state of this Union and every province of Canada. They brought their traditions, culture, languages, foods and a rich heritage that have made a lasting impact throughout this continent. The Swiss government helped these new immigrants by setting up colonies for their countrymen and women on this side of the Atlantic to ease the transition into the New World.

One such colony remains largely intact, located in New Glarus, Wisconsin. This community, which I am honored to represent in Congress, continues to celebrate its Swiss heritage, attracting Swiss immigrants and welcome visitors from around the world.

Many in North America are not aware of the accomplishments of their Swiss-American neighbors. The Swiss have brought a multi-cultural background encompassing elements from German, French, Italian and Roman her-

itages. Many thing of Switzerland as a land of Alpine meadows, decorated cowbells and colorful window boxes. Yet this fails to fully recognize the very modern, multilingual and multi-cultural aspects of this small, yet diverse, nation.

Those of Swiss descent in North America are very proud of their heritage, as Switzerland has made many important contributions to the world. Yet, unlike many other nationalities, there is

The Swiss Center of North America aims to be a state-of-the-art facility located in New Glarus, Wisconsin. It will highlight the contributions of the Swiss of yesterday, today and tomorrow. With historical exhibits, modern interactive displays, genealogical research facilities and premiere meeting space, the Swiss Center will help spread the word that Swiss living in the United States, Canada and Mexico continue to offer much to the North American melting pot. The State of Wisconsin has already committed \$2 million to this project and an international fund-raising drive is now well underway.

I support the Swiss Center of North America not just because it will be located in my district. I support it because those of Swiss heritage need a place to house their artifacts and tell their story. This is a valuable project, in part, because learning more about where we come from helps guide us to where we are going. The more future generations learn about this nation, the more they understand about our rich diversity. The Swiss Center of North America will help foster a better understanding between cultures and will offer us the promise of a broader appreciation of the heritage of our international ancestors.

THANKING WOLODYMYR LUCKHAN
FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE
UNITED STATES DURING WORLD
WAR II

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I thank one of my constituents, Wolodymyr Luckhan, for the heroic action he took during World War II to save an American tank division from an enemy ambush near Swizel, Germany, in April 1945. Mr. Luckhan, seized by the Germans into forced labor, overheard the impending attack against an American tank force approaching the city of Swizel. Mr. Luckhan commandeered a boy's bicycle and peddled through German lines, risking his life to reach the Allied forces. Without his timely warning, the loss of American lives would have been considerable. Mr. Luckhan's example once again demonstrates that the virtue of selflessness merits recognition.

After the war, Mr. Luckhan came to the United States, became a citizen and raised a family. At age 91, Mr. Luckhan still recalls the event that changed the course of history for so many. Walt Whitman wrote that "To have great poets, there must be great audiences, too." I present Mr. Wolodymyr Luckhan as a spokesperson for freedom whose stage for